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May 6, 2005

VIA FACSIMILE
(Total No. of Pages Transmitted: 10)

To: Examiner Firmin Backer Facsimile No.: (703) 872-9306
 Group Art Unit No. 3621

From: Frederick E. Cooperrider Facsimile No.: (703) 761-2375 or 76

Re: Preliminary Amendment
 U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/854,556
 Attorney Docket No. NEC.204 (166539/00)

Examiner Backer:

Enclosed is a Preliminary Amendment, which we request be made of record prior to evaluation of the RCE filed May 5, 2005, for the above-referenced Application.

Thank you in advance for your kind consideration on this case.

Very truly yours,

Frederick E. Cooperrider
 Registration No. 36,769
 (703) 761-2377

FEC/fec

Enclosure: Preliminary Amendment for RCE filed on May 5, 2005 (9 pages)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Takahiro Tanioka

Serial No.: 09/854,556

Group Art Unit: 3621

Filed: May 15, 2001

Examiner: Backer, F.

For: DISTRIBUTED PROCESSING SYSTEM, METHOD OF THE SAME

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 5, 2004, and further to the Amendment Under 37 CFR §1.116 filed on February 2, 2005, and the Request for Continued Evaluation (RCE) filed on May 4, 2005, please further amend the above-identified application, as herein indicated, prior to evaluation based on the RCE.

Independent claims 3, 4, 8, and 17 are amended and new claims 22-25 are added to address the Examiner's concerns discussed during the personal interview held on April 14, 2005, to further clarify the agreement indicated by the license application.